Middle East Observations

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Overview

- Where is the Middle East?
- Comparing the Countries
- Language
- Social Practices
- Economics
- Islam

Where is the Middle East?

- Arabian Peninsula
  - Kuwait, Bahrain, UAE, Qatar, Oman, Yemen, Saudi Arabia
- Fertile Crescent
  - Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan, Syria, Iraq
  - Israel, Iran
- North Africa (Mahgreb)
  - Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco

Comparing the Countries

- How they are alike
  - Classical Arabic
  - Islam and the Koran
  - Sharia law
- How they are different
  - Arabic dialects and other language
  - Economics
  - Social practices
  - Governance

Languages

- Classical Arabic
  - Common writing system
- Arabic dialects
  - Egyptian movies
- Other languages
  - Berber
  - French, Italian, English

Economics

- Arabian Peninsula
  - Oil production
- Fertile Crescent
  - Technology
- North Africa
  - Education
  - Colonization issues

Social practices

- Women's rights
  - Veiling, education, driving, voting
- The poor and elderly
  - Zakat, extended families
- Children
  - Discipline, expectations

Islam

- Five Pillars
  - Prophet Mohammed; Zakat; Daily Prayer; Fasting; Hajj
- The Koran
  - Muslim holy book
  - More than 10,000 verses same as Christian Bible
- Sharia Law
  - Based on the Koran

Conclusion

- Geography
- Languages
- Economics
- Social practices
- Islam